

Application Serial No. 10/660,391
Amendment dated July 9, 2004
Reply to Office Notice of July 7, 2004

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action dated February 4, 2004. By this amendment, claims 1, 2, 4-18, 20 and 21 are in this Application.

Applicant acknowledges and appreciates the indication from the Patent Office that claims 3, 4 and 13-21 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

By this Amendment, the limitations of claim 3 have been incorporated into claim 1, such that claim 1 now brings out the channels and control valves which couple the pressure of the filtered flow and the lower pressure to different sides of the piston without operator intervention. It is believed this should differentiate claim 1 from the cited art; and as such, the limitations of intermediate claim 2 have not been included in claim 1.

Claim 3 has now been cancelled as being redundant, and an appropriate change has been made to claim 4.

Claims 13 and 16 have now been rewritten in independent form, and include all the limitations of claim 1, from which they each depend directly.

The limitations of claim 19 have now been incorporated into claim 10, from which it depends directly. Claim 19 has been cancelled as being redundant.

Claim 20 has now been rewritten in independent form, and includes all the limitations of claim 10, from which it depends directly.

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In light of the above, it is respectfully submitted that all the claims remaining in the application patently distinguish over the cited art and should be in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner continue to believe otherwise, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned by telephone if the Examiner believes it would result in a furtherance of this matter.

Respectfully submitted,



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